Humanitarian / Exceptional Family Member Program Assignment Actions

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Overview

- Programs Governing Policies
- Purpose of AF Humanitarian Program
- Humanitarian Approval / Disapproval Reasons
- Purpose of the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)
- EFMP Notes of Interests
- Points of Contact and References

Overview

- **Public Law 94-142 *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 1975***
- **Public Law 95-561 "*Defense Dependents*" *Education Act of 1978***
- **2008 NDAA Section 587: *Education and Treatment Services for Military Dependent Children with Autism***
- **DODD 1315.07 *Military Personnel Assignments 2005***
- **DODI 1315.18 *Procedures for Military Personnel Assignments 2005***
- **DODI 1315.19 *Authorizing Special Needs Family Members Travel Overseas at Government Expense 2005***
- **DODI 1342.12 *Provision of Early Intervention and Special Education Services to Eligible DOD Dependents 2005***
- **DODI 1342.19 *Family Care Plans 1992***
- **AFI 36-2110 *Assignments, Attachments 24 & 25 2005***

Purpose of Humanitarian Program

- **Help resolve a severe, short-term problem involving an immediate family member; who is a family member?**
- **How do we help?**
  - **Deferment from reassignment / TDY (initial 12 months)**
  - **Reassignment (initial 12 months restriction from DAS)**
    - **Assign Airman to the location closest to the family member, consistent with effective utilization.**
    - **Generally, Special Duty Assignment not an option due to involved selection process; retraining / cross-flow is considered if required and viable.**
- **Eligibility Criteria:**
  - **Authorization must exist at projected location and Airman must have or obtain retainability.**
  - **Problem more severe than usually encountered by other Airmen in similar situations.**
  - **Airman's presence essential to alleviate problem**
  - **Resolution within 12-18 months (24 months if terminally ill)**

Humanitarian Cases Normally Approved

- **Recent death of spouse or child *(within last 12 months)***
- **Terminal illness of family member *(prognosis 24 months or less)***
- **Complete adoption *(once child is in home)***
- **Serious financial problem through no fault of the Airman**
  - **Loss of possessions due to natural disaster / theft / fire**

- **Family Advocacy program (FAP) *(AFI 40-301, 2005)***
  - **Only in this instance can a commander request a humanitarian reassignment / deferment**
    - **Basis is to continue or obtain treatment for FAP issues**
    - **Request fully documented and endorsed by local FAP officer**

- **Sexual assault / harassment *(also applies to AD members)***

Humanitarian Cases Normally Disapproved

- ***Chronic*** **illness of parents and / or in-laws**
- **Problems associated with child-care arrangements due to lack of documented family care plan as required by AFI 36-2908, *Family Care Plans***
- **Settling estates**
- **Threatened separation or divorce; includes pursuit of child custody**
- **Existence of home ownership problems**
- **Financial problems including bankruptcy resulting from over-extension of military income**
- **Sole purpose of seeking / providing extended family support**
- **Problems due to spouse's employment or private business activities**

Purpose of Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)

- Designed to help family members with special needs meeting DoD criteria for EFMP enrollment; needs are usually permanent or long term
- How do we help?
  - Assign Airmen, based on manning needs, to locations where the required educational resources are available, or the medical care is available through either military treatment facility (MTF), TRICARE providers, or combination thereof
  - Provide initial 12-month deferment for newly diagnosed condition when the Airman's presence is essential in establishing / participating in treatment program
    - Once treatment program is established, Airman is then considered worldwide available

Purpose of EFMP (Continued)

- **EFMP Eligibility Criteria: (at least one criterion must be met)**
  - **Care unavailable at current assignment location**
  - **Newly diagnosed condition identified when Airman's presence essential**
  - **The Airman's presence is essential in establishing, participating in, or continuing a medical regimen or educational program in the present assignment area**
  - **Family member denied travel to projected assignment location**

- **Care is verified by local base MTF through the Special Needs Coordinator (SNC) and Chief of Medical Staff confirmation**
- **Airmen identified in Military Personnel Data System via update of assignment limitation code (ALC) "Q" by servicing MPS**

Notes of Interest for EFMP

- **EFMP is not a Base of Preference program**
  - **Airman's preferences always considered, but AF manning needs and care availability must support reassignment**
  - **Location cannot be based solely on the Airman's desire for extended family support**

- **Documented Family Care Plan, required by DODI 1342.19 and AFI 36-2908, *Family Care Plans,* when spouse is unable to manage household in Airman's absence due to "unique family situations."**
  - **Cannot manage due to medical / emotional problems**
  - **CC / First Sergeant support a must in these circumstances**

Humanitarian / EFMP Considerations

- **AF personnel must remain able to respond to contingencies**
- **Maintain equitable distribution of overseas assignments**
- **Permanent or prolonged deferment from reassignment not compatible with AF career**
- **Hardship discharge / retirement may be more appropriate in some situations**

Common Misconceptions

- **“Having a “Q” code means never having to be separated from my family”**
  - **ALC “Q” is an indicator that a family member has special needs. It requires a check to ensure the availability of required services at any accompanied assignment location**
- **“My commander recommended approval so my request will be approved”**
  - **DPAPPH is final decision authority – consistent decisions for all AF personnel**

Take Aways, Points of Contact, References

- When special circumstances exist, the AF Humanitarian and Exceptional Family Member Programs assist
- Application process for both programs begins in vMPF
- Points of Contact:
  - Total Force Service Center-San Antonio
    - DSN: 665-5000, Commercial: 210-565-5000
    - Toll Free: 1-800-525-0102
    - Email: AFPC.DPSOTA.Assignments@Randolph.AF.Mil
  - AFPC/DPAPPH, Humanitarian and EFMP Assignments Section
    - DSN: 665-2764, Commercial: 210-565-2764
    - Email: AFPC.DPAPPH@Randolph.AF.Mil
- References:
  - Personnel Services Delivery Guide located on AFPC website and vMPF
  - AFI 36-2110, Attachments 24 & 25

Air Force Personnel Center

Right Person, Right Place, Right Time